

The War Fifty Years Ago

Battle on the Bank of York River—Two Federal Columns Start From Yorktown Toward Richmond. "Stonewall" Jackson Wins a Slight Victory at McDowell. In the Shenandoah Valley—Confederates Hastily Evacuate Norfolk, Va., and the Ram Merrimac Is Destroyed by Her Own Crew—Spirited Naval Action on the Mississippi—Wooden Confederate Ships Sink One Federal Ironclad and Drive Another Ashore.

By Captain GEORGE L. KILMER, Late U. S. V.

WHEN the Confederates suddenly evacuated Yorktown on May 4, 1862, the peninsula campaign of the Army of the Potomac took on a new phase. The move made by the Confederate commander General J. E. Johnston surprised his own government and the southern people. It was expected of him that he would keep the Federal army at a safe distance from Richmond. After abandoning his strong position on York river he could do so only by opposing it in open field. McClellan's base was at Fortress Monroe, nearly 100 miles from Richmond. The York river bounds the peninsula on the northwest and the James on the southeast. With either river open to Federal warships McClellan could get supplies by water as he advanced toward Richmond. When the evacuation

took place it was expected that the ram Merrimac would make Federal navigation of these streams hazardous, if not impossible. Johnston had about 60,000 troops when he "ran away" from Yorktown. McClellan had about 60,000 in the field. There were 20,000 more Confederates within a day's march of Richmond.

A general of Napoleonic boldness and he have marched out of Yorktown and waited to get his enemy at a disadvantage, near at hand should he pursue too hastily and defeat him. In point of fact, McClellan believed that the evacuation was not a ruse of war, and he started on a vigorous pursuit by two routes. In doing so he violated one of the great maxims of generalship by dividing his army in the face of the enemy.

Advances on Land and Water.

One column pushed forward at the very heels of the Confederates and brought them to bay at Williamsburg, ten miles from the Yorktown lines. While two divisions of McClellan's army were battling there on May 5 four divisions were loaded upon steam transports to proceed up York river and seize a landing place at West Point, near the mouth of the Pamunkey river, a navigable tributary of the York.

The York had been within Confederate territory and had not even been reconnoitered by the Federals. A blinding rainstorm raged all day on the 5th. The naval commander refused to sail up the river to protect the transports until the storm passed. Early on the 6th the flotilla started and reached West Point without mishap at nightfall. The troops went ashore and were attacked on the bank of the river early on the 7th. Having no orders to advance, the commander of the expedition, General W. B. Franklin, held his ground and repulsed the attack. The Confederates retired. Two days later Franklin's column and the troops which had fought at Williamsburg formed a junction near West Point. Reunited, the army proceeded toward Richmond without encountering Johnston's troops again until the gates of the Confederate capital were reached.

Battle at McDowell, Va.

After "Stonewall" Jackson met defeat at Kernstown on March 23, 1862, he moved westward up the Shenandoah valley and waited in the vicinity of Staunton for more troops. The Federal column under General Shields had followed as far as Harrisonburg,

the Federal ships on the upper Mississippi could sail. At that point the Confederates had eight wooden rams. They depended upon these ships to keep the vessels of the Federal fleet at a safe distance above the fort.

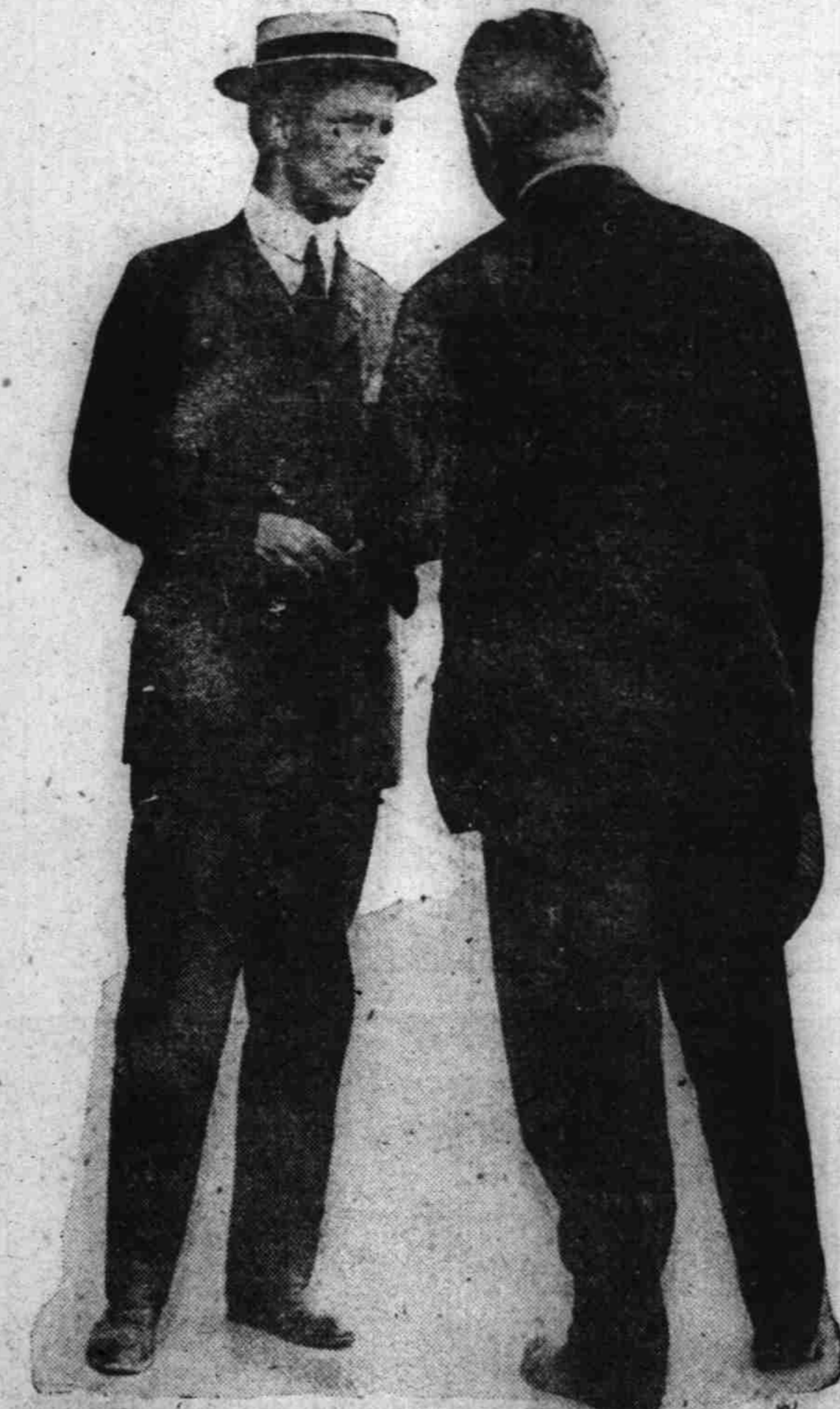
Daily a Federal mortar boat was towed down the river within range of the fort to throw shells at it. One of the ironclads remained near by in order to protect the mortar vessel. On the 10th of May the mortar boat reached her position at 5 a. m. The wooden Cincinnati was close by. At 6 a. m. eight Confederate rams advanced at full speed up the river to capture the mortar boat. This was defeated for a time with great spirit by the crew, who fired the mortar eleven times.

Danger was signalled to other ironclads up the river, and the Carondelet started immediately to support the Cincinnati, the ironclads Mound City, Pittsburg and Benton following. The Confederate rams were led by the General Bragg. She made for the Cincinnati and was fired upon by both the Carondelet and Mound City before she could strike. When she struck she knocked a great hole in the shell room below the water line.

The Rams Spread Havoc.

At this time the Cincinnati started to retreat; then the ram General Price struck her again, and finally the General Sumter dealt her a blow which sent her ashore in a sinking condition. Meanwhile the Carondelet forged to the front and opened with bow and broadside guns upon the foremost rams. Three of those had already passed above her upstream. These opened fire upon the ironclad, which she returned with her stern guns, putting a shot into the General Sumter just forward of the wheelhouse. The

KERMIT ROOSEVELT BUSY AT CHICAGO WORKING FOR FATHER



KERMIT ROOSEVELT TALKING TO HIS FATHER
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CHICAGO, Ill.—Kermit Roosevelt accompanied his father to Chicago from New York, and during the exciting struggle he acted as a confidential messenger and took an active part in the fight. He was often seen in whispered conferences with Colonel Roosevelt.

HOME INSURANCE RAPID TRANSIT MAKES FAIR START STANDS PAT ON STREET PAVING

"We have just closed our books for the first six months of business," said Z. K. Myers, treasurer and manager of the Home Insurance Co. of Hawaii, Ltd., this morning, "and the showing made is a fair one."

Following is the treasurer's statement of June 30, showing total premiums for insurance and reinsurance of \$15,472.55:

DEBIT	
Cash on hand and in banks	\$ 7,673.48
Mortgage loans	24,785.00
Collateral loans	21,360.00
Stock in other companies	750.00
Furniture and fixtures	586.00
Uncollected premiums	1,356.05
Accrued interest receivable	290.38
	\$56,801.49

CREDIT	
Capital	\$50,000.00
Reinsurance reserve	4,571.92
Accounts payable	1,412.65
Profit and loss account	816.92
	\$56,801.49

BUSINESS SINCE ORGANIZATION, TEN MONTHS TO JUNE 30, 1912.
Gross fire premiums.....\$13,974.76
Less reinsurance.....4,997.82

Net fire premiums.....\$ 8,976.94
Net premiums, other lines.....994.14

Total net premiums	\$ 9,971.08
Home	3,911.08
America	3,329.42
Total net premiums, Los Angeles	1,710.98
Total net premiums, Michigan	292.42
Commercial	292.42
Total premiums	\$15,472.55
Due from reciprocity accounts	228.65
Total	\$15,472.55

Losses paid since organization, \$279.68.
Reinsurance reserve to date, \$4571.92.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.

Entered for Record July 5, 1912.
From 10:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.
S. M. Damon and wife et al to City and County of Honolulu.....

William C. Achi, Jr. to Isabella A. Keanu.....

Miller Salvage Co Ltd to B F Dillingham Co Ltd et al.....

Trs of Est of Alexander Young by Regr.....

Henry K. Smith to Henry T. Skiffm.....

Entered for Record July 6, 1912.
From 8:30 a. m. to 10:30 a. m.
Eliza Y. Atkins et al to J. Sakamoto.....

Do Rego & Edwards Auto Co to George Edwards et al.....

Boys' Clubs Plan Big Field Social

As a windup to the recently closed athletic season, the five boys' clubs which have been contestants for first honors on the baseball field, will hold a union good fellowship social next Tuesday evening on the Boys' Field.

Preparations are being rapidly brought to completion under direction of E. A. Cooper of the Kaula community and when the date for the social comes round, everything will be in readiness for one of the largest affairs ever before attempted by the local settlement houses.

Th five clubs which will take part in the evening's activities are Kaula, Kaula, Kaula, Kaula, Kaula. For the past few weeks they have been rivals in athletics both out and indoors and the Tuesday evening social will tend to efface all past differences by mutual enjoyment.

There will be speeches, refreshments, and Hawaiian music. Games will be played and the best endeavors of those in charge are being directed towards making the affair a success in every way.

"There has been a mistaken impression among the boys that the Boys' Field is not for the use of them all," said Cooper while discussing the reception this morning.

"We intend to efface this impression next Tuesday evening and will take special pains to impress it upon the boys that the Boys' Field is for the use of all impartially and not for a scattered few."

"Speeches along the line of good fellowship will be made and we hope that a great deal will be accomplished by these straight from the shoulder."

FATE OF LATEST IMMIGRATION BILL IN CONGRESS IS DOUBTFUL

Burnett Substitute for Dillingham Measure May Hasten Action

[Special Correspondence, Star-Bulletin.] WASHINGTON, June 23.—What effect the substitution of the Burnett Bill for the Dillingham immigration measure will have on immigration legislation during the present session is somewhat doubtful. It is admitted that the action of the house committee in making the substitution was based on a certainty that the Dillingham measure could not be gotten out of committee during the present session, at least, and the probability that it would have remained in committee for the balance of the sixty-second congress. The Burnett bill had been previously favorably reported to the house, and in reporting the amended Dillingham measure the committee quoted largely from its report on the Burnett bill. This report says in fact:

It will be seen that the main purpose of the bill is to exclude from the United States alien immigrants over 16 years of age who are unable to read their own language or dialect. In order that there might be no doubt about the Hebrew and Yiddish being considered as either a language or dialect, they are expressly embraced in the bill.

From the requirement of the literacy test in the bill, there are several exceptions which the committee thought wise to make. We believe that those who are fleeing from religious persecution should find a city of refuge on our shores. Hence the provision excepting immigrants of that class from the test where they are otherwise admissible.

Out of regard for material and other close family ties, and the duties and obligations arising therefrom, as well as high moral considerations, the committee thought proper to make the other exceptions embraced in the bill.

A bill in its main features similar to this was considered by the House on February 29, 1907. The House felt that before action of that nature should be taken, there ought to be a careful investigation of the question both in this country and in Europe. An amendment was offered by those opposed to the literacy test, providing for a commission for that purpose, and it was adopted.

The commission, after nearly four years of investigation and study of the question both in this country and in Europe, made its report to Congress more than a year ago. There were nine members of that commission, and they were unanimous in their statement.

They said: The commission as a whole recommends restriction as demanded by economic, moral, and social considerations, furnished in its report reasons for such restrictions, and points out methods by which Congress can attain the desired result if its judgment coincides with that of the commission.

Eight out of the nine, after citing various methods of restriction, concurred in the following report:

A majority of the commission favor the reading and writing test as the most feasible single method of restricting undesirable immigration. It is certainly interesting, and we believe important, to know some of the reasons which led the commission up to these conclusions, and we will make a few extracts from the "Brief statement of conclusions and recommendations of the commission." On page 25 of this statement they say:

"The proportion of the most serious crimes of homicide, blackmail, and robbery, as well as the least serious offenses, is greater among the foreigners. The disproportion in this regard is due principally to the prevalence of homicides and other crimes of personal violence among Italians and to the violation of city ordinances previously mentioned."

On page 27 they say: As a result of the investigation the commission is unanimously of the opinion that in framing legislation emphasis should be laid upon the following principles:

1. While the American people, as in the past, welcome the oppressed of other lands, care should be taken that immigration be such both in quantity and quality as not to make too difficult the process of assimilation.

2. Since the existing law and further special legislation recommended in this report deal with the physical and morally unfit, further general legislation concerning the admission of aliens should be based primarily upon economic or business considerations touching the prosperity and economic well-being of our people.

3. The measure of the rational, healthy development of a country is not the extent of its investment of capital, its output of products, or its exports and imports, unless there is a corresponding economic opportunity afforded to the citizen dependent upon employment for his material, mental, and moral development.

4. The development of business may be brought about by means which lower the standard of living and the wages of earners. A slow expansion of industry which would permit the adaptation and assimilation of the incoming labor supply is preferable to a very rapid industrial expansion which results in the immigration of laborers of low standards and efficiency, who imperil the American standard of wages and conditions of employment.

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It is policy is one of passive resistance to what it regards as an unjust interpretation of the provision for paying in its charter.

D. L. Withington, leading counsel for the company, stated this morning that there was no intention on the company's part of following up the resolution with a case in the courts.

It will be remembered that all the proceedings on the agreed statement of facts, wherein the Supreme Court gave replies unfavorable to the company's position, were dismissed on a motion by the company to order judgment entered, the purpose of the motion being to have something on which to appeal to Washington from the local court's ruling.

A large gathering is expected at the welcome meeting at the Salvation Army hall tonight to greet the new leader, Col. E. B. Cox, and Adj. Duncan. Meetings of unusual interest are looked forward to both out of doors and in the hall. Sunday will be another great day, and Sunday night's meeting particularly interesting. Monday is the day set for the reception in the Manoa Valley Salvation Army home—July 8.

George Edwards, et al to Joe do Rego.....

Charles Fureux to Yasutaro Nishimoto.....

Yasutaro Nishimoto to First Bank of Hilo Ltd.....

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David K. Kahua to Amos Aho.....

Joquin Garcia.....

Edgar Henriquez and wife to Antonio L. Castro.....

John Kahanakala and wife to Oahu Railway & Land Co.....

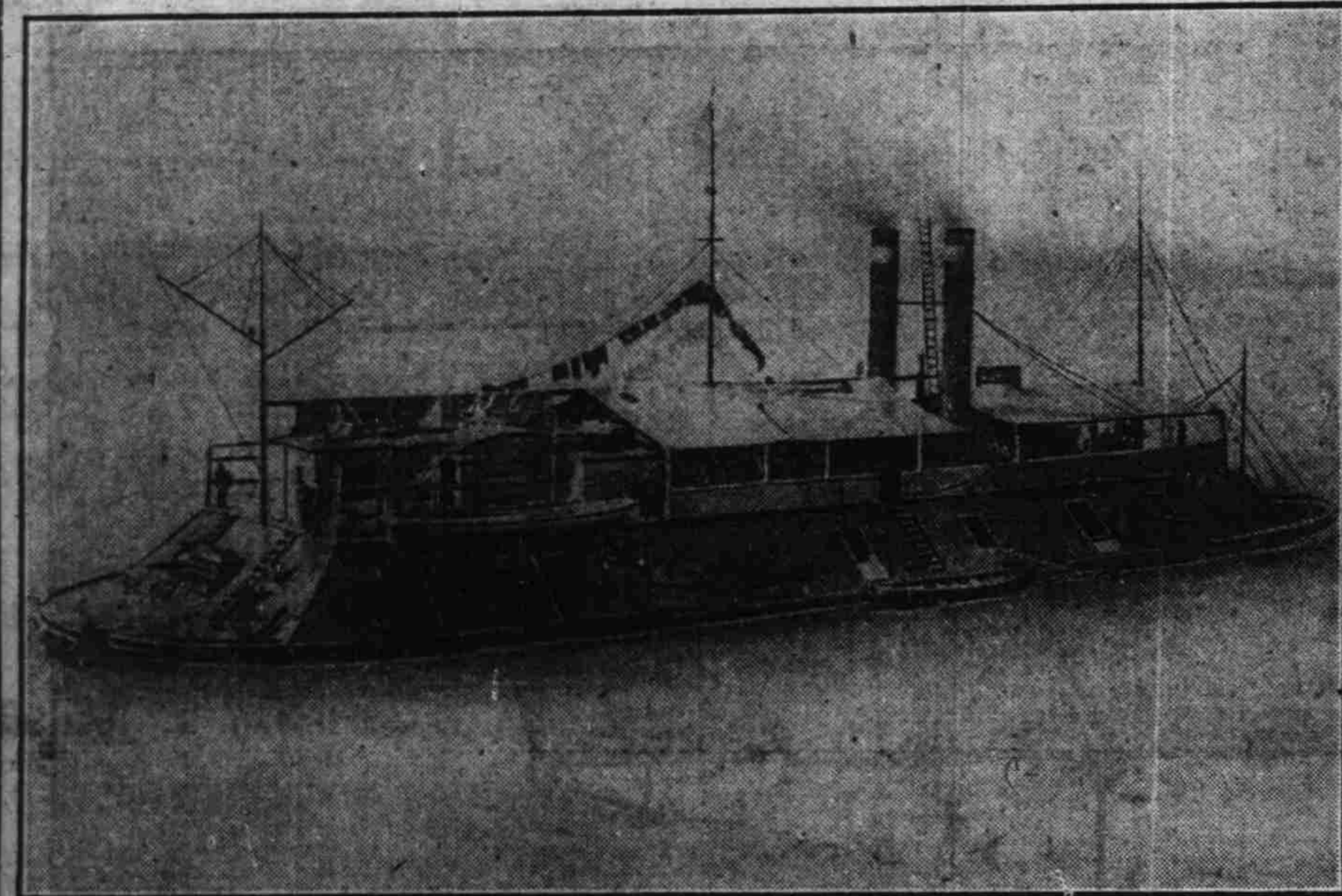
Ormond E. Wall and wife to Martha W. Hobron.....

Do Rego & Edwards Auto Co to George Edwards et al.....

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quarters. Both sides were plucky and stubborn. After accomplishing his object Milroy fell back to the main camp at McDowell. Early on the morning of the 9th the whole force marched away toward Franklin and was not seriously molested by the Confederates.

The Ram Merrimac Blown Up.

While the siege of Yorktown by the Federal Army of the Potomac under General McClellan was in progress, in April, 1862, the Confederates maintained a force of 15,000 men at Norfolk. In the language of military men the movement of the Army of the Potomac up the peninsula from Yorktown toward Richmond "turned" the Confederate position at Norfolk, and it had to be given up. On the night of May 9 the Confederates under General Benjamin Huger evacuated the place. The year before the Federal authorities had evacuated it after destroying a part of the old United States navy yard and burning several warships at the docks.

During their year of occupancy the Confederates had utilized the resources of the navy yard. It was here that the famous ironclad ram Merrimac was constructed. She was about to see her finish close at hand. General Huger burned the navy yard and all the vessels lying there. The Merrimac at the time was at anchor off Craney island, about five miles distant.

She was practically blockaded by several Federal warships, including the Monitor, which lay in Hampton Roads close to the guns of Fortress Monroe. Attempts to lighten the ram so she could pass over the sand bar at the mouth of James river failed, and she was in danger of defeat and capture, provided she tried to cut her way out past the Federal ships. Her commander at this time, Captain Josiah Tatnall, wanted to make a dash for freedom, but he was overruled by his chief at Richmond. Just before daylight on the 11th the torch was applied to the magazines, and the pioneer ironclad warship in American waters was blown into a shapeless wreck by her own people.

Gunboat Battle Near Fort Pillow.

While Farragut's fleet was fighting its way up the Mississippi river at New Orleans in April, 1862, the Federal ironclads in the upper Mississippi were practically blockaded some distance above Vicksburg. The Confederates were preparing for trouble from the north as well as from the south. Fort Pillow was the farthest south which

Mound City, which had come down the river with the Carondelet, had been badly rammed by the Van Dorn and sank in shallow water. The upper deck of the Carondelet was swept with grapeshot and fragments of broken shell, but she stayed in the fight until the rams took shelter under the guns of Fort Pillow. The Federal ship captain claimed that they could have captured some of the rams, only they had no means of towing them out of action. The steam power of the ironclads was out of proportion to their bulk and weight.

Farragut Forging Ahead.

On May 12 Farragut's warships covered the landing of 1,400 Federal troops at Baton Rouge, La., the capital of the state. This incident marked the second stage of the opening of the Mississippi river. Farragut's orders, which also applied to General Butler's land troops, who were to co-operate with the navy, looked to the capture of all the Confederate land defenses on the river and the ultimate occupation of Jackson, Miss., the state capital, lying east of Vicksburg. The navy had halted below only long enough to destroy the Confederate fleet after passing the forts covering New Orleans. The last Confederate ship to go down was the Governor Moore, which was beached by Captain Kennon, her commander, six miles above the forts. The Moore fought successfully five Federal vessels, four of which belonged to the leading division of the fighting squadron led by Captain Theodore Bailey. Bailey's flagship, the Cayuga, came out of the fight carrying forty-two shot holes in her hull. With the Moore in flames and wrecked on the beach the last enemy afloat had been disposed of.

In spite of the wounds of his ship, Bailey steamed on toward New Orleans at the head of his division and, after running past the rams, gunboats and batteries, captured the post at Chalmette, below the city, with a regiment of soldiers and all the guns.

Farragut accorded to Bailey the honor of demanding the surrender of New Orleans. It was refused. The fleet remained in front of the city until General Butler had landed a force of troops and proclaimed martial law. It then continued up the river, reaching Baton Rouge on the 12th. This point remained the northern limit of Federal land occupation along the river for many months, although the navy continued to make demonstrations against the Confederate fortifications farther upstream.

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